

Weekly Bureau of Information for All Who Till the Soil or Are Interested in Making Hoes

## MANAGEMENT OF THE HOG: HINTS TO SWINE RAISERS

To be a successful hog raiser one must keep his stock under the very best environment possible. Do not think any old thing or place is good enough for a hog. He should have access to good clean water to drink at all times, and not stale pond water or mud wallows. Clean, pure water will do more toward keeping hogs healthy than any other one thing. The hog has a peculiar skin, and under the skin is a thick pad of fat, so that he must get rid of his heat mostly from his lungs by breathing. In hot weather he needs some cool water to lie in, and if he prefers mud he will wallow in it. He prefers good, clean water, but if he cannot find that, mud is the best substitute. Shade is very essential in warm weather.

Buildings for hogs need not be very expensive. We advise colony houses of the A shape, with both sides open on hinges on the top. This type of house furnishes shade, ventilation, and sunlight in summer and when closed, a very comfortable farrowing pen in winter. These houses are erected on skids and can be moved from place to place with a pair of horses or mules. They are so constructed that they are ideal farrowing pens. A sow about to farrow can be placed in a lot in which she will be able to get up and down at will. One of these colony houses, and she will make her nest in the house if she has straw or hay placed there. Pinders should be arranged around the sides of the house so that the sow will not be able to lie close to the sides and in that way crush the young pigs in the nest.

These colony houses can also be used for the hogs and growing pigs, although some prefer permanent quarters for the hogs and those pigs intended for the market. It is a great advantage to have hogs on concrete or tight board floors, especially if one is feeding ear corn, as there will be no waste. Feeding in muddy or dusty lots is a very dangerous practice.

It sometimes becomes necessary to feed pigs separate from the sows, even when nursing. This can be done by putting a fence in a smaller lot either porous or concrete, which will allow the little pigs to get in, but will keep out the old hogs. If this plan is adopted the play will be with them themselves or to the sow. We prefer feeding the small pigs, and in fact, all our hogs in either iron or concrete troughs, with round, U-shaped troughs can also be used.

Fences play a very important part in hog raising. A poor fence will produce a brace of hogs as quick as a fence-breaking hog. We prefer a fence-breaking hog. We prefer a fence-breaking hog. We prefer a fence-breaking hog.

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In planting forage crops it is an advantage to plant in long narrow strips, so that the temporary fences can be placed across the end of each field. It is also an advantage to arrange the crops so that one section is in such alignment with the other sections that the cultivation may be done without turning the end of each section, and when the crops are laid by the temporary fence can separate one crop from another.

When plans are made to establish a hog pasture one must not forget the very important factor of providing good, pure water for them. In sections where running water is scarce, it can be secured through pipes, it can be hauled in barrels. Many hog raisers provide a sled or drag on skids on which a barrel is fastened, and the tight floor with sides to it so that the pigs can drink all around the barrel, the water coming out of the barrel through a small hole, which automatically flows according to the water consumed.

Running streams of water are very satisfactory when they originate on the farm, but if they travel long distances and through several farms and across public roads, they are very liable to be contaminated with the germs of disease such as anthrax, hog cholera. Keeping hogs healthy is much more important than trying to cure them when sick.

**Tobacco Root Rot.**  
In reply to the question of a Northern County farmer, who is already planning for next year's crop, we beg to say the root rot of tobacco is one of the most serious diseases of tobacco. The seed is not infected, but the plant is characterized by the decay and loss of the root system, resulting in a stunting of the plants. Complete control of the disease is difficult. Sterilizing the seed beds and planting on new soils is recommended.

**Put Together Again.**  
A Western farmer referred to just one State beyond the Mississippi, says: "Whenever a community is found in which a live farmer's club exists and rural school life is being maintained, the land is higher than any other productive land in a community which lacks these advantages. In fact, it is almost impossible to buy land in a locality where the people have 'got together.' They have added a value to their farm land it is difficult, if not impossible, to measure by the money standard."

**A Society for Good.**  
In order that the message of the world's foremost plant breeder may go forth to the world with fitting sponsorship, the Luther Burbank Society has been organized at Santa Rosa, Cal. Its purpose is solely to assist in the final preparation of Luther Burbank's writings, and to aid in the widespread dissemination of his teachings, so that the greatest number may profit in the greatest degree.

**Orchard Notes.**  
A young apple tree does not require much pruning until it is four or five years old and then it should be pruned better at that age than when early pruning is resorted to.

The orchard that has been properly cared for requires very little pruning after it comes into full bearing.

Never prune heavily in any one year, but do the work gradually from season to season.

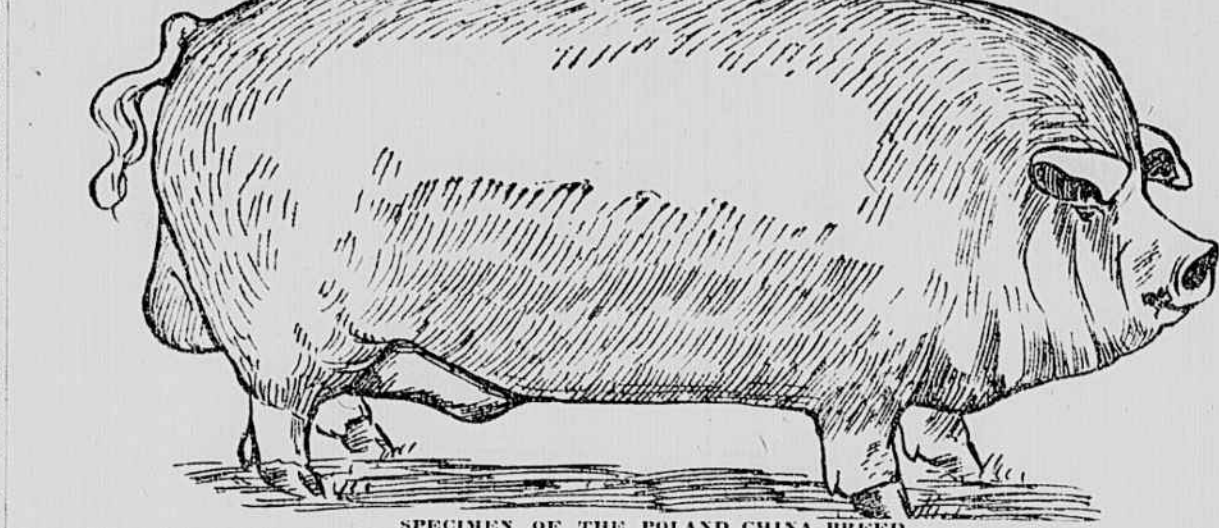
Young trees should be watched carefully and the open spaces in the ground about them which has been made by the wind swaying the trees should be well tilled down. This is particularly important just before winter sets in.

The fall is a good time in which to plant trees because at that time the growing season is over and they will be little affected by the change from the nursery to the orchard.

## AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

All inquiries and communications addressed to The Times-Dispatch will receive prompt attention. This department will appear each Monday, and contributions or suggestions will be welcomed.

Facts for Farmers, Stock Breeders, Poultry Raisers, Orchardists, Truckers and Gardeners—Queries and Answers



SPECIMEN OF THE POLAND CHINA BREED.

### THE PEAR MIDGE

The adult pear midge, which is so destructive to young pears in many sections, is a small two-winged fly which lays its eggs in the clusters at blossoming time. Larvae is sometimes found at the base of the calyx at the time the petals fall, and they soon work their way into the young fruit. The infested pears can nearly always be detected on account of their more globular, and later lopsided shape, while the normal-shaped fruits are free from maggots. The infested pears usually crack open after a rain, before the maggots are about one-eighth of an inch in length. They grow into the ground and form minute oval cells, in which they pupate, and from which the adults emerge the following spring. There is one broad case.

Young pears, showing maggots inside.

remedial treatment is positively known, other than gathering and destroying the infested pears before the maggots leave them. This is comparatively simple, because the infested pears are easily distinguished from the healthy fruit.

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Best Labor is Cheapest.  
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### BRIEF NOTES THOUGHT OUT BY THE WAYSIDE

The State of Pennsylvania celebrates two anniversaries each year—one for spring planting and one for the fall—in April and October, respectively.

Probably the reason opportunity doesn't knock often at some men's doors is because the place looks so uninviting.

The orchard is a good place to let the hogs run a little while each day to pick up fallen fruit.

The loss from weeds is enormous; fully 25 per cent of the earning capacity of some farms is being lost. Millions of dollars can be saved annually by the use of a few simple methods of weed control.

A very effective deodorizer for the hog house is made by putting a tablespoonful of kerosene in a bucket of water. Sprinkle over the floor.

The French feed considerable buckwheat to their turkeys, believing that this grain imparts to the flesh a delicate, nutty flavor much liked by their epicures.

Never use dirty, wormy or rotten apples in making vinegar. Rotten apples carry with them organisms which may interfere with the fermentation of the cider.

To get rid of crab grass in a lawn cut it by hand. As it is an annual it need not be dug out by the roots, but simply cut to prevent it from going to seed.

If an arbor is desired on the lawn or over the porch, select a small fruiting grape vine this fall, mark it so that it will be readily found to transplant in the spring, and set out next season.

It will pay the average poultryman to trap-nest his flock in fall and winter months, and breed from the pullets which lay earliest in life, as well as from the pullets and hens which lay in the winter.

Successful frog farms are in operation in several parts of the country, notable ones being found in California, near San Francisco, and in Missouri, near St. Louis.

Beautiful Nasturtiums.  
The most gorgeous bed of nasturtiums the writer has ever seen was made by a friend who was always exceedingly delicate. Just like blooms grown in the wood—but they did make a grand display of the plants.

Time for Aird Soils.  
The only economic neutralizer, or corrective, for soil acidity which is within the reach of the farmer is lime. Ordinarily one ton of aorta or one ton of plaster is the amount of material used in the making of plaster and mortar. Throughout the agricultural world to-day, however, the word "lime" has taken on a very general meaning. It not only includes burnt lime, or quicklime, but also air slaked lime, or hydrated lime, and water-slaked lime, ground lime, stone, marl, pulverized shells, and marbled dust. These different materials, with the exception of burnt lime and water-slaked lime, are commonly spoken of as "carbonate of lime" or "lime carbonate," because they consist of ordinary quicklime combined with carbon dioxide gas of the air.

It Pays to Think.  
The thinking farmer is the one who is making good to-day. He considers the effect of every lick; studies his soil and by the use of modern methods, with an equal amount of labor, increases the yield from two to four tons. It is the thinking woman who accomplishes in one day by thought and system what her neighbor does in two. Yet how few of us think. They get so the day's work with an indistinct idea of the myriads of things to be done, jumbled together, with no plan, no outline in the mind's eye; no grouping of tasks so that two and three things may be done at the same time, with regard for short cuts and easy ways; and most of all, with no consideration whatever for their own strength and physical endurance. They stand through countless opportunities to do tasks, and rest the tired feet. They trot from one place to another in an aimless way, making many trips where one should make one. All because they do not think.

A woman's life on the farm at its best is hard; how hard no one but the one who has lived it can tell. Much of the farm woman's life cannot be eliminated, even by a world of system. There are meals to cook, dishes to wash, beds to make, floors to sweep, milk to churn, vegetables to gather, fruit to save, water to bring, and sometimes, if we are sorry to say, wood to cut, pigs to feed, and cows to milk. This is hardly a beginning of the daily tasks that confront her; and when there are babies to care for I often wonder that she is alive to tell the story. Surely then, there is any help to be had in thinking, the farm woman needs to think. Else she cannot greet her tired husband when night comes with a well-kept home, good food, and best of all, a cheery smile.—Lucie T. Webb.

Notes for the Orchardist.  
When apples are shipped from the orchard in bulk the packer makes a very nice profit in sorting and packing. The grower should do a thing the grower should do himself.

There is almost as much in the selling of apples as in the growing. When the markets and always have your fruit ready to ship when the prices are most favorable.

It is folly to spend years in bringing up a good orchard and then allow the harvest to come in and take them by their own price.

Of course, it pays well to raise fancy apples if all the details of packing are given the most careful attention. But it must be remembered that the bulk of the fruit consumed is of the standard variety.

Nation of Fruit Eaters.  
In all ages the eating of fruit has been recognized as an aid to health. Some of the most advanced nations advocate the use of fruit and nuts exclusively. The more reasonable plan, however, seems to be to eat "plenty of fruit," as the saying is. Why? It is because he believes that every one should eat fruit—say oranges or apples, and they cost about the same—every day. Then, when the season comes, this advice, and some sections of the globe are making money furnishing the fruit.

Fill the Egg Basket.  
You want your hens laying now of all times of the year, whether you sell eggs or just have a few hens to supply your own family. Come in and get

Pratts Poultry Regulator  
and you soon be getting all the eggs you want. It does make hens lay—guaranteed to do it or your money back.

Look out for Boud at this time—the most dangerous of all Poultry diseases. Pratt's Regulator is guaranteed to cure. We sell it.

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## RELIEF FUND DEPOSITS INCREASED BY \$22,768

Request for Repayment of \$5,000 Placed to the Credit of Baltimore Man.

Washington, September 13.—Deposits with the Treasury Department for the relief of Americans in the war zone amounted to \$22,768 Friday. The aggregate deposits reported to the Treasury Department for the week since the beginning of the war foot up to \$2,232,568.59. Treasurer Burke has himself, taken in more than \$500,000 of this amount, and the assistant treasurer at New York has reported receipts of nearly \$1,000,000.

Application has been made to Treasurer Burke for refund of \$5,000 deposited by Parker Cook, of Baltimore, with the government for the relief of Captain Isaac E. Emerson, of Baltimore, father-in-law of William C. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury.

The money was made payable by the United States Consul at Frankfort-on-Maine, where Captain Emerson was supposed to be held. It is assumed that Captain Emerson started for home without applying for the deposit. The State Department will verify by cable the fact that he has not been paid over, and notify Treasurer Burke, who will then make the refund.

Claim was made by a New York broker for refund of \$1,000 as not having been paid to the beneficiary. The State Department, after cubing for the facts, reports that the money was paid to the beneficiary, and that the broker had not then received the money.

To avoid double payments, both to beneficiary and refund to depositors, the government agents will exercise great care. It is to be expected that applications for refunds, under circumstances that will not in the least indicate any doubtful intention, will be numerous.

THE COTTON MARKET  
NEW ORLEANS, September 13.—A determined holding movement and few offers of distressed cotton was reported by the buyers here during the past week. With this condition came a better demand and steadier prices for spots. In the Eastern market, where some markets are quoting rises, prices of one-eighth to one-fourth were quoted from day to day.

The Buy-A-Bale movement spread this week to all parts of the cotton market. It is a movement to continue and it has not a little to do with the business of farmers. Good progress has been made during the week with the liquidation of old accounts, and it was felt by future buyers, that the steadier feeling in spots, and the continued movement of the market, before long, the day of the reopening of the exchange to active business.

The cotton market in the first report of the season issued this week, showing an outturn only a little more than half of that of the same period during the last three seasons, was taken as assurance that the movement in cotton would continue and that there would be little chance for real pressure to sell spots this week.

Financial Review  
NEW YORK, September 13.—The notable achievement last week in finance was the perfecting of the Bankers' plan for reopening the foreign exchange market. For export of \$100,000,000 gold from the banks of the whole country to be available for the use of the foreign market.

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